

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00249 161017Z

15

ACTION AEC-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3970

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, TW

SUBJECT: TAIPOWER/BNFL SEPENT FUEL PROCESSING CONTRACT

FOR AEC/A.S. FRIEDMAN FROM W.W. HENOCKH

1. HENOCKH, WHO IS IN TAIPEI ATTENDING THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON NUCLEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMICS, WOULD LIKE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE PASSED TO DR. FRIEDMAN: "VICTOR C.H. CHENG, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CAEC, INDICATED THAT TAIPOWER/BNFL CONTRACT FOR PROCESSING SPENT FUEL STILL NOT SIGNED. TAIPOWER INITIALLY EXPECTED 10 YEAR CONTRACT, BUT BNFL DESIRES 1980 CUTOFF. BNFL (ACCORDING TO CHENG) RAISED COST OF PROCESSING BUT, MOST IMPORTANTLY, INDICATED THAT BNFL WOULD SHIP WASTE BACK TO TAIPOWER,

WHO HAVE NO FACILITIES TO HANDLE, INSTEAD OF DISPOSING OF WASTE IN UK. TAIPOWER HAS THE CAPABILITY TO DISPOSE OF LOW-LEVEL RADIO ACTIVE WASTE BUT NOT HIGH-LEVEL."

"TAIPOWER IS LOOKING INTO COST OF SPENT FUEL STORAGE FACILITY. CURRENT ESTIMATES ARE FOR US\$10 TO US\$20 MILLION FOR PROJECTED REQUIREMENTS TO 1979. DR. MANSON BENEDICT ESTIMATES THAT LOWER FIGURE MORE ACCURATE, BUT QUESTION MAY BE ACADEMIC SINCE TAIPOWER APPEARS TO HAVE LITTLE INCLINATION AT THIS TIME OF TAKING THIS COURSE."

UNGER

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 00249 161017Z

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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